Message Text

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46

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 SIL-01 LAB-04 SAM-01 SP-02

L-03 OPIC-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /041 W

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O R 181204Z FEB 76 FM AMEMBASSY LISBON TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6043

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EINV, PO

SUBJ: OTIS ELEVATOR

REF: LISBON 1003

1. TWO RECENTLY RESIGNED EMPLOYEES (ANTUNES GONCALVEZ AND NEVES PINTO) OF FORTIS-OTIS PORTUGUESA CALLED AT EMBASSY ON FEBRUARY 13 TO DISCUSS CURRENT SITUATION AT OTIS. BOTH MEN WERE PROBABLY ATTEMPTING INGRATIATE THEMSELVES WITH EMBASSY IN PREPARATION FOR POSSIBLE RETURN OF U.S. MANAGEMENT. HOWEVER, THEY PROVIDED SOME INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT CURRENT OPERATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE OF INTEREST TO JAULIN.

- 2. A) FIRM IS MANUFACTURING NO EQUIPMENT.
- B) FIRM IS PAYING SALARIES OUT OF INCOME FROM SERVICE OF ELEVATORS AND FROM COLLECTIONS OF OUTSTANDING RECEIVABLES. AT LEAST SOME EMPLOYEES HAVE NOT RECEIVED 1975 CHRISTMAS BONUS OR 1975 VACATION PAY.
- C) FIRM HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM GOP. FORTIS-OTIS BANK ACCOUNTS HAVE REMAINED FROZEN.

 D) FIRM'S WORKERS HAVE LABOR MINISTRY CREDENTIAL WHICH CONFERS SOME LEGALITY ON THEIR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. HOWEVER, CREDENTIAL IS EXPIRING AND HAS NOT YET BEEN RENEWED.

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3. PLEASE PASS ABOVE INFORMATION TO JAULIN. ANOTHER

OTIS EMPLOYEE HAS REQUESTED MEETING WITH COMMATT. WILL REPORT ANY SIGNIFICANT NEW INFORMATION.

4. COMMENT: PROXIMATE EXPIRATION OF CREDENTIAL AND REQUEST FOR RENEWAL IS REASON GOP HAS ACTED NOW TO CONTACT OTIS ELEVATOR. LABOR MINISTRY, DESPITE SEVERE CRITICISM, HAS REFUSED RECENTLY TO RENEW CREDENTIALS OF WORKER COMMITTEES AT SEVERAL FIRMS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: REPATRIATION, PERSONNEL, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, BUSINESS FIRMS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 18 FEB 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON01049

Document Number: 1976LISBON01049
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760060-0723

From: LISBON

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760240/aaaabirj.tel Line Count: 70 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION COME

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a

Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 LISBON 1003 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 20 APR 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: OTIS ELEVATOR
TAGS: EINV, PO, US, OTIS ELEVATOR

To: COM PARIS

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006